

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Dear Residents,

The City of Killeen has never been in better position than it is today. A strong economy, improved infrastructure and state and federal relationships are setting the course for a bright future in our community.

The City's finances remain in excellent condition. Growth in both property and sales tax receipts shows more people are choosing to live and shop in Killeen. Strong fiscal management has not only allowed progress in programs and services but has done so without increasing the property tax rate.

Major road improvements now ensure that our community is prepared for continued growth. A number of local road and highway projects were completed last

year, and more are entering their final stages in the next few months. Motorists are now finding new connections and increased mobility. Notably, US 190 improvements have led to a federal highway designation as I-14, which will greatly enhance economic development potential.

Killeen and other cities have partnered with Bell County WCID #1 to build a new water treatment plant that will serve water needs through 2050. We have also embarked on a water reuse program that makes gray water available for certain purposes reducing the demand on our potable water system.

Finally, our relationships with both state and federal government have brought tremendous benefit to the area including more than \$10 million in grants for public safety and transportation. This funding allows our

city to move forward on necessities ahead of schedule.

More great progress is on the horizon. This year will bring construction of Fire Station #9, Trimmier Road improvements and the reopening of the renovated Killeen Community Center. It is an exciting time to be in Killeen!



### **Election Day is May 7**

Voting at  
**Precinct Polling Locations**  
7 am to 7 pm

### **Early Voting**

**Killeen City Hall,  
Gilmore Senior Center &  
Lions Park Senior Center**  
April 25 & May 3 • 7 am to 7 pm  
April 26-29 & May 2 • 8 am to 5 pm

[\*\*KilleenTexas.gov/Election\*\*](http://KilleenTexas.gov/Election)

## KILLEEN ADOPTS PAYDAY LENDER ORDINANCE

Killeen City Council adopted an ordinance that will change the way credit access lenders do business starting May 18. In an effort to reduce abusive and predatory lending practices, the City will require these businesses to register and to abide by certain restrictions.

Credit access businesses, better known as payday and car title lenders, will now be required to register with the City. Approved businesses will have to conspicuously display their certificate of registration. Further, businesses must prominently post a sign regarding the Military Lending Act.

Customers of these businesses should look for signage before

utilizing their services.

The new ordinance also places restrictions on how much cash may be loaned. A payday advance may not be made for an amount more than 20 percent of the borrower's gross monthly income. A title loan may not exceed the lesser of three percent of the borrower's gross annual income or 70 percent of the retail value of the vehicle. The lender will use a paycheck or other documentation to determine income.

When the terms of a credit extension provide for repayment in installments, there may be no more than four installments, and the loan may not be refinanced or renewed. When the terms of

credit extension provide for repayment in a single lump sum, repayment may not be refinanced or renewed more than three times. The lender is also required to use at least 25 percent of the proceeds from each installment, refinancing or renewal toward the principal amount.

Once the ordinance takes effect May 18, customers utilizing these businesses should expect all of these practices to be in place. If a consumer experiences a Killeen credit access business not following these requirements, a complaint should be filed with Killeen Police Department to ensure personal and public protection.

## SPECIAL SATURDAY CURBSIDE TRASH COLLECTIONS

To help get a jump start on your spring cleaning, the City of Killeen is offering free Saturday curbside collection of bulky trash items on designated Saturdays in the month of April.

Items such as furniture, appliances and boxes will be picked up at your curb in addition to your regular weekly pickup. There is no charge for up to 3 cubic yards, but there will be a \$7.50 charge per additional cubic yard.

The first eight car and truck tires up to 22 inches will be picked up for no charge. A fee of \$3.15 per tire will apply to additional tires. Large truck and tractor tires will not be collected.

Each household may place one pile of demolition material and one pile of brush at curbside for free pick up. Each pile may be up to 4 ft. by 4 ft. by 12 ft. Additional cubic yards will be charged \$7.50 each.

The city will not pick up household hazardous waste materials like pesticides, paint, oil, chemicals or batteries. A full list is available on the City website. Also not accepted are rocks, dirt, deceased animals or liquid waste.

For questions about this special collection, please email SW-Info@killeentexas.gov.

Let's all do our part to Killeen Up! in April!

### COLLECTION SCHEDULE:

Regular trash day	<b>Monday</b>
Special collection	<b>April 9</b>

Regular trash day	<b>Tuesday</b>
Special collection	<b>April 16</b>

Regular trash day	<b>Thursday</b>
Special collection	<b>April 23</b>

Regular trash day	<b>Friday</b>
Special collection	<b>April 30</b>

***All trash should be placed curbside between 6 pm the Friday before and 7 am the Saturday of your scheduled special collection.***

## TEXAS TRASH-OFF

Keep Killeen Beautiful is organizing the local Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off Saturday, April 9, and they need your help to Killeen Up! our city.

Volunteers will meet at 8 am at the Special Events Center, 3301 S. WS Young Boulevard, before spreading out to remove litter from roadsides, parks and public spaces. After the Trash-Off, volunteers will gather back at the center for lunch and prizes.

Last year, 440 volunteers in Killeen collected more than 7,000 pounds of trash to help

Keep Texas Beautiful. The Trash-Off is the single largest one-day clean up event in Texas with cities across the state

participating.

Join hundreds of others in our community and volunteer your family, club or group.

For more information or to sign up, call Volunteer Services at 501-7878.



Killeen started the New Year by breaking ground on a new fire station. Located on Bunny Trail, Killeen Fire Station 9, will service the bustling southwest area of the city.

## SNIP AND CHIP

**All cats and dogs more than four months of age living within the city limits are required to be spayed or neutered and microchipped.**

In an effort to prevent pets from being at large, to reunite lost pets with their owners and to control overpopulation, Killeen enforces this ordinance, though there are some exceptions.

All dogs and cats that are processed through or held at the Killeen Animal Shelter are now microchipped, if not already, before being released. A microchip fee will be added to impoundment fees.

Please visit the Animal Services webpage, [www.killeentexas.gov/animals](http://www.killeentexas.gov/animals), for more information on this and other animal ordinances.

## FREE FAMILY FUN AT THE CELEBRATE KILLEEN FESTIVAL

Celebrate good times, come on! The Celebrate Killeen Festival is April 28 through 30, and you won't want to miss all the fun!

A free gospel concert kicks off the festival Thursday, April 28, at the Killeen Community Center Amphitheater from 6 to 8 pm.

Back for a rematch, the Killeen Food Truck Showdown heats up Friday, April 29, at 7 pm in front of Vive Les Arts Theatre. Don't miss what's cooking in the trucks or onstage, where a city-wide talent show will feature amazing local performers.

Saturday, April 30, begins at 8 am with the Fallen Heroes 5K Run, part of the CenTex Race Series. Proceeds benefit Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (LEAF) scholarships.



Festival activities continue all

day Saturday including a car show, step competition, cultural performances and a kids' fun zone with pony rides, a petting zoo and more!

Saturday winds down with a movie in the park showing of *The Good Dinosaur* beginning at dusk on the amphitheater lawn. A spectacular fireworks show following the movie is a great way to finish out the fun.

You won't want to miss the Celebrate Killeen Festival! For a full schedule of activities, go to [killeentexas.gov/celebratekilleen](http://killeentexas.gov/celebratekilleen).

## EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Is some-bunny ready for the city's Easter Eggstravaganza? Join us March 26 at the Killeen Athletic Complex to gather all the eggs your basket can hold!

All participants must register. Preregistration is March 21 through 24 at Lions Club Park Family Recreation Center. Event day registration begins at 11 am.

The egg hunt for children ages zero to three will begin at noon, ages four and five will begin at 1

pm, and ages six through eight will begin at 2 pm.

All kids can enjoy free games, bouncies and pictures with the Easter Bunny from 11 am to 2:30 pm.

A flashlight egg hunt for kids ages nine through 12 starts at dusk. Registration is \$5 and opens March 21. Only 250 kids can participate, so register now.

For more information, contact Parks & Recreation at 501-6390 or visit [killeentexas.gov/parks](http://killeentexas.gov/parks).



## BE GREEN WHEN YOU CLEAN

As Spring approaches, your yard starts to demand attention. Please remember the following when maintaining your yard...

**Mow your grass.** City ordinance says that grass may not exceed 12 inches in height.

**Don't blow.** Leave grass clippings on your yard or bag them. Never blow them into the street.

**Clean sweep.** Make sweeping driveways, sidewalks and gutters

part of your clean routine.

**Follow directions.** Don't over-use fertilizers or pesticides. Use as recommended so chemicals don't wash into our waterways.

**Pick it up.** Always pick up pet waste in your yard and elsewhere.

*To report a violation or for more information, contact Code Enforcement at 501-7608 or Environmental Services at 501-7629.*

## ROAD REPORT

Road construction continues throughout Killeen, and motorists should use caution as closures, detours and traffic patterns change. Here is what you can expect in the next few months...

🚧 Finishing work continues on the Rosewood Drive Project, which includes US 190, FM 2410 and Rosewood Drive. More motorists are using these areas, so traffic patterns are still developing.

🚧 The Trimmier Road Widening Project will intensify this spring creating lane closures from Lowes Boulevard to Elms Road. Expect increased congestion and longer commutes as a continuous center turn lane is constructed.

🚧 The final segment of the Stagecoach Road Project is underway between WS Young Drive and Wells Fargo Road. When complete this summer, Stagecoach will be five lanes wide from SH 195 to Harker Heights.



## AQUATICS CENTER OPENING SOON

Dates, rates, times and more at [KilleenTexas.gov/aquatics](http://KilleenTexas.gov/aquatics)

The Family Aquatics Center at Lions Club Park opens for the summer season Memorial Day Weekend!

You don't have to go far to find fun in the sun and water. The park offers activities for all ages with three pools, four slides and a climbing wall.

The zero-entry beach featuring spray grounds and a water playscape is great for little ones. Big kids can spread out in the waterscape for games, sports and thrill rides on



the giant plunge slides.

The lap pool, swim lanes, diving boards, covered pavilions, shaded lounge areas and park concessions make this a place you can spend a day or the summer.

The water park is located in Lions Club Park at 1800 Stan Schlueter

Loop. It offers day, season and family passes. It can also be rented for private events.

The countdown to splash down has begun!

## READ ALL ABOUT IT!

The City of Killeen wants you to be in the know, so we make information about your city available 24 hours a day.

KilleenTexas.gov offers a tremendous amount of information starting with the news feed. You can also find information about every department, City Council agendas and meeting videos and the entire Code of Ordinances. Find a contact, file a complaint or fill out a permit...it's all just a click away.

The city's Facebook page is another key to city information. Join our 9,000 fans and like us today at [facebook.com/KilleenTexas](http://facebook.com/KilleenTexas) to have access to all the latest.

We're here to help even when city offices are closed. You can post questions and get answers nearly 24 hours a day!

Get the whole story by going to the source. Visit City Hall online today!

## FOOD TRUCK FRIDAYS

Get your grub on at Green Avenue Park! Food Truck Fridays are every Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and offer a wide variety of delicious dishes. Asian, Cuban, Guamanian, Mexican, BBQ and more. There are choices for every taste from local vendors. Grab and go or stay and play...join us for Food Truck Fridays in historic Downtown!

## SPRAY & PLAY

The Junior Service League of Killeen Spray Pad at Long Branch Park is open for the season!



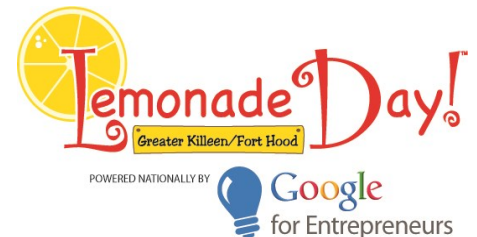
## THE SWEET TASTE OF LEMONADE



Pucker up! Lemonade Day is coming to the greater Killeen area Sunday, May 1. We each have a role in making this a successful event whether as participants, mentors or customers, so mark your calendar.

This nationwide event is an educational initiative designed to teach youth how to start, own and operate their own businesses—lemonade stands. Lemonade Day is an opportunity to train the next generation of entrepreneurs through a fun and engaging activity.

Participants learn to set goals, develop business plans, establish budgets, seek investors, provide customer service and ultimately give back to the community.



Lemonopolis is new this year and will allow youth an exciting, interactive, virtual version of the program.

Parents, teachers, family and friends are encouraged to partner up with a future entrepreneur as a caring adult and watch the sparks of creativity fly.

Registration is now open online and will be available at a variety of community events. The event website features a digital version of the Entrepreneur Workbook to help kids get started.

The City of Killeen, Killeen ISD and title sponsors First National Bank Texas, Fort Hood National Bank and HEB are proud to bring Lemonade Day 2016 to our area for the seventh year.

[forthood.lemonadeday.org](http://forthood.lemonadeday.org)